

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING DECEMBER 7, 2020

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, December 7, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. in Hearing Room 338 of the Howard County Administration Center. Those in attendance included President Paul Wyman, Vice-President Brad Bray, Member Jack Dodd, County Attorney Alan Wilson and County Auditor Martha Lake.

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Asher and conducted by President Paul Wyman. Commissioner Bray led the in Pledge of Allegiance, and Commissioner Wyman offered a word of prayer.

IN THE MATTER OF SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS/ RECCOGINTIONS: Commissioner Wyman sent condolences to Greg Sheline, City/County Plan Commission Director, to let him know that we are praying and thinking of him and his family, after the loss of his wife this week.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of November 16, 2020, regular meeting having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd, Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

COMMUNITY HOWARD BEHAVIOR HEALTH CENTER UPDATE –SFY 2020 REPORT:

Chief Operating Officer Mr. Greg Oliver presented to the Commissioners how Community Howard Behavior Health is using the money from the County to meet the needs of the community, in respect to the community mental health services. He wants to make sure the hospital is a good steward of Howard County Mental Health tax dollars. He said those dollars are being used for emergency crisis support, psychiatry, and case management skill services. This report covers the state's fiscal year July 1st 2019 - June 30th 2020. During that period CMHC received \$830,350.00 in Howard County Mental Health tax dollars. Total patients served during that time is approximately 3,100 patients. The amounts of contractual write offs for the Charity Sliding Scale is \$377,000.00. This is using federal dollars that we have to use, and this is very critical for full continued care. He explained they are very excited about a couple of new housing grants they received. These housing grants will be used for re-entry people coming from the jail and will help them with housing support, utilities and security deposits etc. CMHC has collaborated with their partners to make sure that people get what they need. They also received an additional grant for \$147,000.00. This grant will be used for people with severe mental health illness. CMHC has been working with Pam Isaac and others to make sure that these dollars are used in the appropriate way to keep our community safe and strong. The state of Indiana has chosen Howard County for an expansion of recovery works, which means the program can be expanded to include anyone that has a misdemeanor. Recovery Works is a program that insures that while a person is in jail they receive the help they need. In the past this program was restricted to only those with felonies. This makes the bridge easier for Sheriff Asher and his staff, Turning Point, and other service providers in the community, to get help out there so people can be successful in their treatment. Mr. Oliver stated that they have been doing several things to help the community with behavioral health issues, such as updating their web site, organizing community conversations, and arranging specialists to speak on a verity of helpful topics. The goal is to insure the community has good access to information people need. Mr. Oliver stated that care is expanding and one of his biggest concerns is the demand for staff recruitment that are licensed therapists who can meet the increasing demand. He and his staff continue to look at ways to fill this demand by inviting internships, to bring licensed therapist to our community. Just keeping the staff safe and healthy from COVID has had its challenges. Commissioner Dodd asked about the "significant mental illness" population and where the focus is in Howard County at this time. Those with significant mental illness disabilities are those who are homeless, schizophrenic, or bipolar. Commissioner Dodd is concerned about the housing, Mr. Oliver stated that he and his staff work with shelters and the community to get help. He mentioned his staff member Jeff Lipkey, who works with adults with SMI. Part of Mr. Lipkey's role is to find housing placement for these individuals. There are shelters, and the hospital has received a Care's Grant, which provides money to help work with local landlords for placement in housing, group homes, or transition homes. He went on to explain that there are many challenges. Some people may not want help, and some may need a skilled nursing facility. They look at each individual to make sure that each one gets the treatment they need, so that they are not on the streets or drawing the attention of law enforcement, so that they can have a life of dignity. The hospital has an outreach team that handles this. If an individual needs care, the team makes sure to reach out to them and provide the required needs. Commissioner Wyman told Mr. Oliver that the Commissioners really appreciate all of his hard work. The Commissioners also recognized the work in this area has

become much smother. The Board believes the money is being spent much more wisely. He added that the Board appreciates the partnerships CMHC is creating in our community. He thanked Mr. Oliver for his very important, comprehensive presentation which is entered in the record.

IN THE MATTER OF DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

COUNTY ASSESSOR:

Purchase of Vehicle – *At the previous meeting (Nov. 16th, page 1, second section from the bottom of page), three quotes were presented and a vehicle was approved for Mrs. Heady to purchase. However, when Mrs. Heady contacted the dealer, the vehicle had been sold.*

Today, on behalf of Mrs. Heady, County Assessor, Auditor Martha Lake, presented a quote for the purchase of a new vehicle in the amount of \$39,442.25 from Erik's Chevrolet, for a 2021 Chevrolet Blazer, which compares to the vehicle approved for her to purchase at the previous meeting. Commissioner Dodd made a motion to approve the purchase of said vehicle as presented. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

PLAN COMMISSION:

Rezoning:

City/County Plan Commission Director Greg Sheline presented four new subdivisions, four new lots.

Subdivision:

Planning Commissioner Greg Sheline submitted a new Subdivision Anderson Acres Subdivision 1 lot at 2204 W. Judson Road, Kokomo (Case7-CP-20). There was a favorable recommendation by the board. There was no remonstrance.

Mr. Sheline submitted a new subdivision Ellis Estates Subdivision 1 Lot at 9899 East 100 South, Greentown (Case 8-CP-20) . There was a favorable recommendation by the board. There was no remonstrance.

Mr. Sheline submitted a new subdivision Mooney Acres Subdivision 1 Lot at 2570 North 300 West, Kokomo(Case 9-CP-20) . There was a favorable recommendation by the board. There was no remonstrance.

Mr. Sheline submitted a new subdivision Chalk Acres Subdivision 1 Lot at 4692 East 50 N, Kokomo(Case 10-CP-20) . There was a favorable recommendation by the board. There was no remonstrance.

All four of these are one lot subdivisions were approved, and they were also approved at the drainage board meeting with no remonstrance. With four new subdivisions requests having been heard, Commissioner Bray, made a motion to approve subdivisions Anderson Acres, Ellis Estates, Mooney Acres, Chalk Acres as presented. Commissioner Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Ordinance:

Planning Commissioner Greg Sheline submitted Ordinance No. 2020-BCCO-47(Case 9-CZ-20) rezoning of property located at 9899 E. 100 S, from (AG) Agricultural to (RR) Rural Residential. There was a favorable recommendation by the board. There was no remonstrance.

Mr. Sheline submitted Ordinance No. 2020-BCCO-48(Case 10-CZ-20) rezoning of property located at 2570 N. 300 W. from (AG) Agricultural to (RR) Rural Residential. There was a favorable recommendation. There was no remonstrance.

Mr. Sheline submitted Ordinance No. 2020-BCCO-49(Case 12-CZ-20) rezoning of property located at 4692 E. 50 N. from (AG) Agricultural to (RR) Rural Residential. There was a favorable recommendation. There was no remonstrance.

Mr. Sheline submitted Ordinance No. 2020-BCCO-50(Case 11-CZ-20) rezoning of property located at 4390 South 650 West from (AG) Agricultural to (RR) Rural Residential .There was a favorable recommendation. There was no remonstrance.

With the rezoning of four new Ordinances requests having been heard, Commissioner Dodd, made a motion to approve Ordinance's 2020 – BCCO-47,48,49,50 as presented. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

MAINTENANCE:

Cabinetry for the Public Defender's Office:

On behalf of Maintenance Superintendent Bill Stonestreet, Brad Shepherd from the Maintenance Department presented a quote for the cabinetry repair for the Public Defender's office. Mr. Andrew Vandenbosch has agreed to pay for new carpet, the Maintenance Department will pay for the wall to wall repair and painting, out of their maintenance general fund. Resurfacing of the cabinetry will be done by Hearn Construction and the cost will be \$4,595.00. Mr. Shepherd asked to use the funds from the Cumulative Capital Building Repair Fund 1138.47241.000.0000. Commissioner Bray made a motion to approve the repair of the Cabinetry in the Public Defender's Office in the sum of \$4,595.00, as presented. Commissioner Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Commissioner Wyman gave kudos to the Maintenance Department regarding the beautiful lighting of the Court House and lawn. He stated that the Maintenance Department always does a great job.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

1. Softworks accounting Software

Highway Superintendent Mrs. Tolle is requesting to purchase Softworks Accounting Software Contract. It has four components: 1) Government Accounting Software, to track all of our claims and track the budget. 2) Responses log/Complaint tracking to keep track of all the inquiry's that come in, and what responses has been given. 3) Fleet Management, inventory the garage parts, 4) Signed Management to keep track of what is used. The total cost is \$19,980.00 for all four pieces, and is a onetime purchase. The Highway Dept. received a \$5,000.00 discount. Commissioner Dodd made a motion to approve the purchase of Softworks Accounting Software as presented. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Description	Amount	Your Cost
Responses Log/Complaint Tracking/Work Order	\$4,495.00	\$3,245.00
Fleet Maint./Garage Parts/ Yard Inventory	\$7,995.00	\$6,745.00
Government Accounting Software	\$7,995.00	\$6,745.00
Sign Management Software	\$4,495.00	\$3,245.00
Total	\$24,980.00	\$19,980.00
Highway Department Saves \$5,000.00		

2) Annual Bids Awards.

Highway Superintendent Mrs. Tolle presented the 2021 Annual Bids. She stated no bids were received on Item #1 and Item #5. One bid was received late. Mrs. Tolle and the Auditor will re-advertise those two items and a motion was made by Commissioner Bray to re-advertise those two items and the bids must be in to the Auditor's Office by December 30th at 11:00 a.m. They will be presented at the Commissioners Meeting at 12:00 noon. Commissioner Dodd seconded the motion and the motion carried.

List of 2020 Annual Bids Received Previously:

Item #1 – Precast and Prestressed Beams

- None

Item #2 – Various Grades of Asphalt, Emulsion, and Tar

- Asphalt Materials Inc.
- E&B Paving Inc. - **Awarded**

Item #3 – Bituminous Coated Aggregate, Asphaltic Concrete Binder and Top

- E&B Paving Inc. - **Awarded**

Item #4 – Stone

- Hanson Aggregates Midwest LLC. - **Awarded**

- Martin Marietta

Item #5 – Equipment Rental

- None

Item #6 – Diesel Fuel

- Petroleum Traders

Commissioner Dodd made a motion to approve the bids as presented. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT:

Heath Department Software Agreement: Director of Information Systems Jeremy Stevens, presented the New Health Department Software Agreement to be signed. The new software is designed to bring everything together. There is a single place to put data, a single place for recording, etc. The IT Cares Grant which was proposed to pay for this software fell through at the State level. James Vest, Health Department Director and Jeremy Stevens, IT Director have been working together to try to salvage this software purchase for the Health Department. Commissioner Wyman stated that the funding could come from Howard County's CARES Act Funding. Attorney Alan Wilson has looked over and approved the agreement. Commissioner Wyman said that he is glad that they found a solution to get this software approved outside of the original Health CARES Grant. The Commissioners thanked Mr. Vest and Mr. Stevens for all their hard work. The New Health Department Software Agreement was approved on a motion made by Commissioner Bray. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dodd, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS AND REPORTS:

Howard County Auditor Martha Lake submitted the following claims and reports for the Commissioners' information and approval:

1. **Salary Claims:** The Commissioners' Salary, Hourly, and Overtime Claims for payment on December 4th & 18th, 2020, in the amount of \$863,082.15, were submitted and approved on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
2. **Operating Claims:** The Commissioners' Operating Claims to be paid December 7th, 2020, in the amount of \$3,575,818.14, were submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bray, and the motion carried.
3. **Ratify Claims:** Auditor Martha Lake presented the Contribution to the Regional Planning Council in the amount of \$63,422.00 for ratification. A motion was made by Commissioner Dodd to ratify this claim. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bray, and motion carried.
4. **Treasurer's Monthly Report:** Auditor Martha Lake presented the monthly Treasurer's Report through October 31st, 2020. The report was received by the Board.

IN THE MATTER OF ATTORNEY ISSUES:

Attorney Alan Wilson, presented the Contract between Jeremy Peelle/Peelle law Office and the Howard County Clerk's Office to the Board of Commissioners. The Contract is the same as last year and the purpose is to enable the collection of fines and fees. A motion was made by Commissioner Bray to approve the contract. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dodd, and the motion carried.

*There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners
at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 4:32 p.m. on a motion
made by Mr. Dodd, seconded by Mr. Bray, and carried.*

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

PAUL G. WYMAN, PRESIDENT

ROBERT B. BRAY, VICE PRESIDENT

JACK W. DODD, MEMBER

ATTEST:

MARTHA J. LAKE, AUDITOR

Howard County Commissioner Meeting December 7, 2020